

[Mr. J. W. Minter]

Mrs. C. May Cabea P.W.

Amarillo, Texas Dup PANHANDLE PIONEERS

Interview with: Mr. J. W. Minter

1015 Jackson Street

Amarillo, Texas

Mr. and Mrs. Minter came to the Panhandle and Amarillo 33 years ago, Mr. Minter having an older brother here who extolled the virtues of the plains country. Mr. Minter, who worked for H. B. Sanborn for seven years prior to his death, had occasion to know the real man that was the "Father of Amarillo" better than most people. He recalls Mr. Sanborn as a man of independent thought and action doing as he deemed best and fit, letting the chips fall where they would.

Mr. Sanborn drove a "coach and four", an unusual sight in the little cow town, but the cowboys accepted the innovation in the land of "horsesbackers" as a privilege of the great builder. If that style of turnout suited him, who were they to challenge his taste? Four bob-tailed, shining-coated bays drew the "tally-ho" coach through the dusty streets of Amarillo. Once Mr. Sanborn drove the coach with its "spanking" team to Fort Worth to the fair, or stock show.

The old Sanborn home, which once occupied the block where the Municipal Auditorium now stands, was moved to the corner of 14th and Madison, at 1311 Madison Street, where it is to day just as it was when the Sanborn's lived in it, except for a coat of white paint. In those earlier days, the house was painted yellow, Mr. Sanborn's favorite color. In front of

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the old building, on the west of the 500 block on Buchanan Street, ran a cement walk, the first paying in Amarillo. On the north and west sides of the block was a park in which were several deer.

Upon the block now known as Sanborn Park, the Sanborns planned to build a new home, but Mrs. Sanborn later gave that site to the city for a park.

Mr. Sanborn, who was always interested in any project that looked toward the up-building of Amarillo, offered the land for a campus when a state teachers college was agitated for West Texas, if the state would locate it in Amarillo.

Mr. Minter is authority for the statement that Mr. Sanborn gave the block upon which the present courthouse is located.

After Mr. Sanborn died, Mr. Minter continued working for Mrs. Sanborn until her death several years later.

About 2 years after Mr. Minter came to Amarillo, Dr. G. J. Nunn established his school at 701 Jackson. Miss Zula Orr, who came from Stephenville to teach in the Nunn school, became Mrs. Nunn.

The Lowry-Phillips School was established on the present site of the Children's Home about 1910 or 1912 by two men, Lowry and Phillips. Lowry later took over the school alone.

After Mr. Minter came to Amarillo the rangers were here frequently to quell disturbances contingent upon the local prohibition efforts. A Mr. Edge who ran a saloon was not the source of the name of Edgefield, according to Mr. Minter. Mr. Edge was on the opposite side of the liquor question from Mr. Nunn, who owned the land upon which the Edgefield

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addition to Amarillo was established. The real reason for the name of the addition was the fact that it was on the edge of the town and county.